

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM19.10	ACTION			Ward: All
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Supporting the Special Hockey International Tournament Coming to Toronto in 2026 - by Councillor James Pasternak, seconded by Councillor Jon Burnside

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Economic and Community Development Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor James Pasternak, seconded by Councillor Jon Burnside, recommends that:

1. City Council request the Deputy City Manager, Community and Social Services, in consultation with appropriate Division Heads, to explore ways the City can provide support and assistance to the organizers and local hosts of the Special Hockey International Tournament, for the 2026 Special Hockey International Tournament taking place in Toronto.

Summary

The Special International Hockey Tournament is hosted on an annual basis in a different North American City. The 2026 tournament will be held in Toronto. The City of Toronto previously hosted this event in 2019. The 2026 tournament is expected to bring in about 60 teams from across Canada, the United States, and England. The tournament is scheduled to be hosted at the Scotiabank Pond Arena in Downsview Park and the Chesswood Arena located at 4000 Chesswood Drive on March 5, 6, and 7, 2026. The City of Toronto is actively involved in hosting international sporting events and is equipped with the resources and capacity to endorse this significant hockey event and ensure its success. Special Hockey is a community-based hockey program for the developmentally challenged that was founded in 1980 by the late Pat Flick. It is the first program of its kind that made it possible for those with developmental disabilities to participate in the sport of hockey. For over forty years players of all ages, both male and female, have learned new skills, learned teamwork, and developed confidence while staying physically fit. The main sponsoring host for Special Hockey International Tournament is the Grandravine Special Hockey team located in Downsview.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM19.10

<https://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2024/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-246778.pdf>